

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A scanner apparatus for scanning paper documents, of the type comprising a first device for scanning bank ~~echeques~~checks, wherein the first device includes:

a first input receptacle ~~(11)~~ for receiving at least one ~~echeque~~check to be scanned;

at least one first image-scanner unit ~~(25, 26)~~ for scanning at least one of the faces of the ~~echeque~~check,

a first output receptacle ~~(27)~~ for receiving the ~~echeque~~check after it has been scanned by the first scanner unit, and

a first conveyor mechanism ~~(15, 16, 17, 23)~~ for conveying ~~echeques~~checks, one at a time, from the first input receptacle ~~(11)~~ to the first output receptacle ~~(27)~~, passing in front of the first scanner unit; and

the apparatus further comprising a second device for scanning other paper documents ~~(D)~~, wherein the second device includes:

a second input receptacle ~~(28)~~ for receiving at least one paper document ~~(D)~~ to be scanned,

at least one second image-scanner unit ~~(41)~~ for scanning at least one of the faces of the paper document,

at least one second output receptacle ~~(44, 50)~~ for receiving the paper document after it has been scanned by the second scanner unit ~~(41)~~; and

—a second conveyor mechanism ~~(37, 38, 42, 43)~~ for conveying paper documents, one at a time, from the second input receptacle ~~(28)~~ to the second output receptacle ~~(44, 50)~~, passing in front of the second scanner unit ~~(41)~~.

2. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ scanner apparatus according to ~~Claim-claim~~ 1, further comprising an outer casing (10)-containing the first scanning device and the second scanning device, and for the second input receptacle (28), the outer casing (10)-has an input slot (29) for the said paper documents (D)-which has a width of at least 210 mm.

3. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ scanner apparatus according to ~~Claim-claim~~ 1, further comprising an electronic control unit (ECU)-which is connected to the first image-scanner unit (25, 26)-of the first device in order to receive signals relating to the scanning of ~~echeques~~checks from the first unit, and to the second image-scanner unit (41)-in order to receive signals relating to the scanning of the other paper documents (D)-from the second unit.

4. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ scanner apparatus according to ~~Claim-claim~~ 3, wherein the electronic control unit (ECU)-is also operatively connected to:

–~~first~~ photocell means (14)-for detecting the presence of at least one ~~echeque~~check in the first input receptacle (11)-of the first scanning device,

–drive/actuator means (15, 16)-of the first conveyor mechanism for picking up at least one ~~echeque~~check from the first input receptacle (11)-and conveying the ~~echeque~~check to the first output receptacle (27), passing in front of the first scanning unit (25, 26);

–~~second~~ photocell means (30)-for detecting the presence of at least one document (D)-in the second input receptacle (28)-of the second scanning device, and

–drive/actuator means (31)-of the ~~first~~ second conveyor mechanism for picking up at least one document (D)-from the second input receptacle (28)-and conveying (37, 38; 42, 43; 48, 49)-the document to a second output receptacle (44, 50), passing in front of the second scanner unit (41).

5. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ scanner apparatus according to ~~Claim-claim~~ 3, further comprising one single USB or Ethernet serial communication bus operatively connected to the electronic control unit (ECU)-in order to transmit to the exterior the scanning data coming from all of the scanner units (25, 26, 41)-of the apparatus.

6. (Currently Amended) A The scanner apparatus according to Claim-claim 1; wherein the second device for scanning paper documents (~~D~~) is housed in the lower portion of the casing (~~10~~) and in that the first scanning device is disposed in the upper portion of the casing (~~10~~).

7. (Currently Amended) A The scanner apparatus according to Claim-claim 1; wherein the second scanning device comprises an input receptacle (~~28~~) for paper documents (~~D~~), situated on a first side of the casing (~~10~~), and an output receptacle (~~44~~) disposed on a second side of the casing (~~10~~) opposite the first side.

8. (Currently Amended) A The scanner apparatus according to Claim-claim 7; wherein the second scanning device comprises a further output receptacle (~~50~~) situated on the same, first side of the casing.

9. (Currently Amended) A The scanner apparatus according to Claim-claim 1; wherein the second device for scanning paper documents (~~D~~) is arranged selectively to perform scanning of only one face or of both faces of the document.

10. (Currently Amended) A The scanner apparatus according to Claim-claim 9; wherein:

—the second image-scanner unit (~~41~~) is mounted so as to be rotatable (~~45~~) about an axis perpendicular to the path of movement (~~47~~) of the document in order to be able to adopt a first angular position in which it is situated on one side of the path in order to scan one face of a document (~~D~~) and a second angular position (~~41'~~) to which it is rotated from the first and in which it is situated on the opposite side of the path in order to scan the opposite face of the document (~~D~~), and

—and wherein the second conveyor mechanism comprises a pair of motor-driven rollers (~~42, 43~~) which can be rotated selectively and alternatively in two opposite directions of rotation in order to move a document (~~D~~) in one direction or in the opposite direction.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The scanner apparatus according to ~~Claim~~ claim 10, wherein the pair of motor-driven rollers (42, 43) is interposed between the second, rotatable scanner unit (41, 45) and an output receptacle (44) for receiving the documents (D).

12. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The scanner apparatus according to ~~Claim~~ claim 10, wherein the second, rotatable scanner unit (41, 45) is interposed between the pair of motor-driven rollers (42, 43) and a deflector means (40) which can permit the movement of a document (D) from the second input receptacle (28) to the second scanner unit (41, 45) along a first path (47) and can deflect the document along a deflected path towards a further output receptacle (50) when the document (D) is moving in said opposite direction.